



STATE OF MICHIGAN

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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November Unemployment Rates Decline in Most of Michigan's Regional Labor Markets

Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates decreased in 14 of Michigan's 17 major labor market areas in November, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment and labor force levels rose in the majority of regions in November.

"November was a favorable month in many of Michigan's local labor markets," said Rick Waclawek, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives. "The only increases in unemployment were seasonal and expected in the state's northern regions with the conclusion of the summer and fall tourism seasons."

From October to November, the unemployment rate declines in the 14 regions were moderate, with a median decrease of a half percentage point. The largest over-the-month drop of 1.3 percentage points was reported in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). Michigan's three northernmost labor market regions recorded minor seasonal jobless rate increases of a half percentage point or less. In November, 16 of the state's 17 major regions displayed jobless rates under 10.0 percent, while ten areas posted unemployment rates below the national non-seasonally adjusted November rate of 8.2 percent.

Jobless Rates Down Over Year

From November 2010 to November 2011, unemployment rates fell in all of the state's 17 regions. Over-the-year rate declines ranged from 1.7 to 3.3 percentage points with a significant median drop of over two and a half percentage points. The largest rate decreases since November 2010 occurred in the Flint and Muskegon-Norton Shores MSAs along with the Northeast Lower Michigan region.

Total Employment Up Over Month, Year

Over the month, total employment rose in 14 regions, with a notable median advance of 1.0 percent. The most substantial employment gains in November took place in the Grand Rapids-Wyoming, Flint, and Lansing-East Lansing MSAs. Employment dropped seasonally over the month in the Northeast and Northwest Lower Michigan regions along with the Upper Peninsula.

Since November 2010, 12 areas registered employment advances averaging about a full percent. The largest over-the-year gains were displayed in the Bay City, Holland-Grand Haven, Saginaw-Saginaw Township North, and Grand Rapids-Wyoming MSAs. Three regions posted mostly minor declines over the year, while two areas were essentially unchanged over that period.

Labor Force Levels Up Over Month, Down Over Year

In November, labor force levels rose moderately in 12 regions, declined in four areas, and remained essentially unchanged in the Monroe MSA.

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Between November 2010 and November 2011, labor force levels fell in 16 regions with a significant median work force reduction of 2.3 percent. The labor force level in the Bay City MSA was up slightly over the year.

November Payroll Jobs Little Changed

The monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan edged downward by 4,000 or 0.1 percent in November to 3,987,000. Job changes within Michigan's various industry sectors and regions were almost exclusively seasonal. Job declines in leisure and hospitality services (-12,000) and construction (-6,000) were somewhat offset by gains in retail trade (+13,000). The state's remaining industry sectors recorded mostly minor changes in November.

In November, payroll job changes were mixed throughout Michigan's metropolitan areas as seven regions showed mostly minor overall job gains and six areas reported small job losses. Payroll jobs were essentially unchanged in the Muskegon-Norton Shores MSA over the month. The Flint and Grand Rapids-Wyoming MSAs registered the most pronounced percentage job gains in November. Job reductions in the six regions were minimal over the month.

From November 2010 to November 2011, seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs increased statewide by 59,000 or 1.5 percent. Nine of the state's 11 major industry sectors recorded job gains or were stable since November 2010. The strongest job growth over this period was in professional and business services (+24,000), manufacturing (+21,000), and health care (+13,000). Government (-11,000) and leisure and hospitality services (-5,000) posted the only major sector declines over the year.

Since November 2010, 13 of Michigan's 14 major metropolitan regions displayed payroll job gains, with an average increase of 1.6 percent. Payroll jobs in the Battle Creek MSA were down slightly over the year.

County Jobless Rates Fall Over Month, Year

Fifty-seven of Michigan's 83 counties recorded unemployment rate reductions in November, with a minor median decline of 0.4 of a percentage point. Jobless rates increased in 23 counties, led by seasonal advances in the state's northern areas. Three counties showed no change in jobless rates over the month. In November, 28 counties in Michigan displayed unemployment rates under the national non-seasonally adjusted rate of 8.2 percent.

From November 2010 to November 2011, unemployment rates fell in all Michigan counties. The median rate drop over the year was a significant 2.7 percentage points.

*Note: Data in this release is **not seasonally adjusted**. As a result, employment and unemployment trends may differ from previously released Michigan seasonally adjusted data.*

A breakdown of seasonally unadjusted November workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a listing of county jobless rates for November.

Note to Editors: Please ensure that the source for state unemployment rates reads "Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget."

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	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
ANN ARBOR MSA (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	184,100	180,600	180,900	0.2%	-1.7%
Total Employment	171,500	170,300	171,600	0.8%	0.1%
Unemployment	12,600	10,300	9,300	-9.7%	-26.2%
Rate (percent)	6.9	5.7	5.2		

Contact: Mark Reffitt, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 492-5550

	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
BATTLE CREEK MSA (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	66,900	63,800	64,200	0.6%	-4.0%
Total Employment	60,600	59,000	59,700	1.2%	-1.5%
Unemployment	6,300	4,800	4,500	-6.3%	-28.6%
Rate (percent)	9.5	7.6	6.9		

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 841-5634

	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
BAY CITY MSA (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	52,900	52,700	53,100	0.8%	0.4%
Total Employment	47,600	48,600	49,200	1.2%	3.4%
Unemployment	5,300	4,100	3,900	-4.9%	-26.4%
Rate (percent)	10.0	7.9	7.4		

Contact: Rhea Acuna, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (989) 776-1508

	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
DETROIT-WARREN-LIVONIA MSA (Data in thousands) (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	2,044	2,022	1,995	-1.3%	-2.4%
Total Employment	1,807	1,803	1,804	0.1%	-0.2%
Unemployment	237	219	190	-13.2%	-19.8%
Rate (percent)	11.6	10.8	9.5		

Contact: Jim Rhein, DTMB Economic Analyst (313) 456-3095

	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
FLINT MSA (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	188,600	180,900	183,100	1.2%	-2.9%
Total Employment	166,000	163,900	167,200	2.0%	0.7%
Unemployment	22,600	17,000	15,900	-6.5%	-29.6%
Rate (percent)	12.0	9.4	8.7		

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	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA					
(Barry, Ionia, Kent, Newaygo counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	389,600	380,700	386,800	1.6%	-0.7%
Total Employment	354,300	353,800	361,900	2.3%	2.1%
Unemployment	35,200	26,900	25,000	-7.1%	-29.0%
Rate (percent)	9.0	7.1	6.5		

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	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
HOLLAND - GRAND HAVEN MSA					
(Ottawa County)					
Civilian Labor Force	129,300	127,300	128,300	0.8%	-0.8%
Total Employment	117,200	118,500	120,000	1.3%	2.4%
Unemployment	12,100	8,800	8,300	-5.7%	-31.4%
Rate (percent)	9.3	7.0	6.5		

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	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
JACKSON MSA					
(Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	73,000	71,000	71,300	0.4%	-2.3%
Total Employment	65,100	65,100	65,700	0.9%	0.9%
Unemployment	7,900	6,000	5,600	-6.7%	-29.1%
Rate (percent)	10.8	8.4	7.8		

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	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA					
(Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	169,100	165,500	165,800	0.2%	-2.0%
Total Employment	153,400	153,300	154,400	0.7%	0.7%
Unemployment	15,700	12,200	11,400	-6.6%	-27.4%
Rate (percent)	9.3	7.4	6.9		

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	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA					
(Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	244,200	239,800	242,700	1.2%	-0.6%
Total Employment	223,800	223,900	227,100	1.4%	1.5%
Unemployment	20,400	16,000	15,600	-2.5%	-23.5%
Rate (percent)	8.3	6.7	6.4		

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	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
MONROE MSA					
(Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	70,600	68,600	68,600	0.0%	-2.8%
Total Employment	63,400	63,100	63,400	0.5%	0.0%
Unemployment	7,300	5,500	5,200	-5.5%	-28.8%
Rate (percent)	10.3	8.1	7.5		

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	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
MUSKEGON - NORTON SHORES MSA					
(Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	83,200	81,000	81,400	0.5%	-2.2%
Total Employment	73,600	73,700	74,600	1.2%	1.4%
Unemployment	9,600	7,300	6,800	-6.8%	-29.2%
Rate (percent)	11.5	9.0	8.4		

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	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA					
(Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	76,800	74,600	74,800	0.3%	-2.6%
Total Employment	68,600	68,400	68,700	0.4%	0.1%
Unemployment	8,200	6,200	6,100	-1.6%	-25.6%
Rate (percent)	10.6	8.3	8.2		

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	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
SAGINAW-Saginaw Township North MSA					
(Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	91,500	90,800	91,000	0.2%	-0.5%
Total Employment	82,100	83,500	84,000	0.6%	2.3%
Unemployment	9,400	7,400	7,000	-5.4%	-25.5%
Rate (percent)	10.3	8.1	7.7		

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	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
UPPER PENINSULA LMA					
(15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	151,600	148,600	147,900	-0.5%	-2.4%
Total Employment	135,500	136,900	135,700	-0.9%	0.1%
Unemployment	16,000	11,700	12,100	3.4%	-24.4%
Rate (percent)	10.6	7.9	8.2		

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	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Nov-11</u>	% change month	% change year
NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN (Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	87,700	84,400	83,900	-0.6%	-4.3%
Total Employment	75,700	75,800	75,000	-1.1%	-0.9%
Unemployment	12,000	8,500	8,900	4.7%	-25.8%
Rate (percent)	13.7	10.1	10.6		

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NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN (Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	144,400	140,100	139,800	-0.2%	-3.2%
Total Employment	126,600	127,400	126,600	-0.6%	0.0%
Unemployment	17,800	12,800	13,200	3.1%	-25.8%
Rate (percent)	12.4	9.1	9.4		

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MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)					
Civilian Labor Force	4,752	4,658	4,645	-0.3%	-2.3%
Total Employment	4,241	4,232	4,256	0.6%	0.4%
Unemployment	511	426	389	-8.7%	-23.9%
Rate (percent)	10.8	9.2	8.4		

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Note:

The table above contains **seasonally unadjusted** data for Michigan for 2011 and 2010, which should be used in comparison with data for Michigan regions or counties.

DTMB released earlier the **seasonally adjusted** November 2011 unemployment rate for Michigan (9.8 percent), which is best used for:

- Identifying recent Michigan workforce trends
- Conducting comparisons with unemployment rates for the U.S. and other states

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**MICHIGAN COUNTIES RANKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
NOVEMBER 2011**

1	Washtenaw County	5.2	43	Mason County	8.8
2	Clinton County	5.4	44	Ogemaw County	8.9
3	Isabella County	5.7	45	Tuscola County	9.0
4	Eaton County	5.8	46	Osceola County	9.2
5	Barry County	5.8	47	Sanilac County	9.2
6	Menominee County	6.1	48	Kalkaska County	9.3
7	Midland County	6.2	49	Chippewa County	9.5
8	Kent County	6.2	50	Gogebic County	9.5
9	Kalamazoo County	6.4	51	Macomb County	9.5
10	Ottawa County	6.5	52	Manistee County	9.7
11	Marquette County	6.5	53	Crawford County	9.8
12	Dickinson County	6.9	54	Missaukee County	9.9
13	Calhoun County	6.9	55	Montcalm County	10.0
14	Ingham County	6.9	56	Alger County	10.0
15	Allegan County	7.2	57	Cheboygan County	10.1
16	Houghton County	7.3	58	Lapeer County	10.2
17	Bay County	7.4	59	Schoolcraft County	10.3
18	Grand Traverse County	7.4	60	Luce County	10.3
19	Leelanau County	7.4	61	Roscommon County	10.5
20	Monroe County	7.5	62	St. Clair County	10.6
21	Livingston County	7.6	63	Clare County	10.7
22	Saginaw County	7.7	64	Oceana County	10.7
23	Huron County	7.7	65	Wayne County	10.7
24	Jackson County	7.8	66	Charlevoix County	10.8
25	Cass County	7.8	67	Benzie County	10.8
26	Branch County	8.1	68	Otsego County	10.9
27	Alpena County	8.1	69	Wexford County	10.9
28	Oakland County	8.1	70	Arenac County	10.9
29	Gratiot County	8.2	71	Lake County	11.2
30	Berrien County	8.2	72	Iosco County	11.3
31	Iron County	8.2	73	Gladwin County	11.5
32	Delta County	8.2	74	Emmet County	11.6
33	Newaygo County	8.2	75	Alcona County	11.6
34	Ionia County	8.3	76	Antrim County	11.6
35	St. Joseph County	8.3	77	Mackinac County	12.7
36	Muskegon County	8.4	78	Presque Isle County	12.8
37	Mecosta County	8.4	79	Ontonagon County	12.8
38	Lenawee County	8.5	80	Keweenaw County	13.6
39	Van Buren County	8.7	81	Oscoda County	14.2
40	Genesee County	8.7	82	Montmorency County	15.2
41	Hillsdale County	8.7	83	Baraga County	16.0
42	Shiawassee County	8.7			

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